

by the residents of Long Island in 1994 during the east end fires for which she received a service citation. During the tragic crash of TWA flight 800, she served as coordinator of mental health, rescue and relief working 18 hours a day training and directing health teams.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Barrett's activities in human relations and women's issues have given her an international reputation. I ask my colleagues to join with me and rise to salute Dr. Mina Barrett for her devotion and for all she has done to enhance our world.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN L. EDMONDS

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 9, 1997*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to highlight the accomplishments of Mr. John L. Edmonds, a prominent real estate developer in New York City. Mr. Edmonds and the Edmonds Group specializes in the development and rehabilitation of housing units for low- and moderate-income families.

It is the dream of every American family to own their own home. The Edmonds Group has been directly responsible for making home ownership a reality for many families in New York. The group utilizes a combination of sources to achieve home ownership, including Federal funds, HUD tax credits, and State and local loan guarantees.

As the largest minority developer in the city of New York, Mr. Edmonds has recently developed five low-income housing projects in Manhattan. Despite fierce competition, the Edmonds Group has been able to prosper and has a 100 percent completion rate of projects it has undertaken in New York City.

#### ODYSSEY OF THE MIND WORLD FINALS

### HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 10, 1997*

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, today, I come before you to recognize a few very special and talented young people from my district. On Wednesday June 6, the opening ceremonies for the Odyssey of the Mind world finals were held at the University of Maryland. This competition challenges the intelligence, creativity, and team work of those participating. Competitors came from all over the world to be a part of this wonderful event.

Among those who placed were 13 young men and women from the 48th Congressional District of California. Palmquist Elementary School in Oceanside and Aliso Viejo Middle School in Aliso Viejo won top honors. Both schools won first place in the Odyssey of the Mind State competition and earned their way to the world competition this summer.

It is refreshing to see programs like Odyssey of the Mind, that challenge the young people of this country to get involved. These men and women hold the key to the future of America. It is encouraging to see their young minds at work, bettering themselves and this country with each new challenge they take on.

I congratulate each of these young people for their accomplishment. With that in mind, I would like to close with the Odyssey of the Mind's pledge: "Let me be a seeker of knowledge, let me travel uncharted paths, and let me use my creativity to make the world a better place in which to live." This is a motto we could all live by.

#### TRIBUTE TO SETH EDWARDS

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 9, 1997*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Seth Edwards for his valuable contributions in the banking industry. Mr. Edwards is a vice president in Chase Manhattan Bank's Community Development Group, and is the manager for Chase's community affairs in Brooklyn.

During his 28 years of service with Chase, he has performed a variety of duties at international posts in Greece, the Middle East, Canada, and the Dominican Republic.

Seth was born in Oklahoma and grew up in Liberia, West Africa. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Liberia with degrees of anthropology and sociology. He joined Chase after a year of graduate study in France, and a tour of duty in South Vietnam with the United States Army. He is presently on the board of the HOPE Program and on the business advisory council of community school district 13. I am pleased to acknowledge Seth Edwards' contributions.

#### DISAPPROVAL OF MOST-FAVORED-NATION TREATMENT FOR CHINA

SPEECH OF

### HON. VINCE SNOWBARGER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 1997*

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Speaker, during the past several months, I have listened carefully to the residents of the third district who took the time to contact me about renewal of most-favored-nation status for the People's Republic of China.

To those who passionately oppose renewing MFN because of China's treatment of dissidents, let me say that we agree on everything but the solution. I have heard from many of my constituents that China's human rights record is an abomination—and I agree. Many have pointed out that China's repression of Christians and members of other faiths is an outrageous assault on the most basic of human liberties—and I agree. Others have suggested that the Chinese Government's policy of forced abortions and sterilizations cries out for condemnation from every civilized country—and I agree. Still others have expressed grave concern about China's involvement in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction—and I agree.

We disagree on one point. I do not accept the notion that the United States can effectively deal with human rights abuses in China by raising taxes on Americans. And that is what this issue is about.

I have enormous respect for those, like Dr. James Dobson, who point to the need to address China's human rights violations. However, I also note that others whose moral vision I hold in equally high esteem, such as Dr. Billy Graham and many Christian missionaries in China itself, argue just as passionately against disengagement with China. The persecution of Christians and other religious minorities in China is appalling. Yet those that preach the gospel in China say that if America were to revoke MFN Christians would face even greater persecution.

It seems to me the key test of the effectiveness of any sanction, such as withholding MFN, is whether the sanction is likely to produce the desired effect. Does anyone believe that a government that is willing to commit heinous crimes against its own people will be moved to reform its system as a result of a sanction aimed more at Americans than at China? Clearly, there is legitimate difference of opinion on how best to support those who suffer under the Chinese Government's oppression. I would hope that those who differ on the means would not vilify each other when they share the same ends.

I have co-sponsored a bill that would target tough sanctions at the elements of the Chinese Government that are responsible for atrocities against their own people and threats to our country. Under this proposed bill, the Chinese companies responsible for the illegal importation of AK-47's into California would be prohibited from exporting to the U.S. and the Federal Government would be required to publish a list of all companies affiliated with the Chinese People's Liberation Army [PLA]. It would prohibit the granting of U.S. visas to Chinese government officials involved in the Tiananmen massacre. The United States would be required to reduce assistance to organizations that support China's so-called family planning program and to vote against all loans to China from international organizations to which we belong. Finally, the President would be required to encourage our allies to join us in these sanctions.

Many Members of Congress—on both sides of this issue—have taken stands for their beliefs. It would have been easy to voice my outrage at China's transgressions by voting against renewal of MFN, regardless of whether doing so would have any impact on China's behavior.

But I believe I owe it to my constituents to base my vote on the merits of the issue, not on the politics. My vote is based on what revocation of MFN would do to Americans. First, we should understand that most-favored-nation status is the normal trade treatment we extend to nearly every country in the world. In fact, there are only six countries that the United States does not extend MFN to: Cuba, Laos, Vietnam, Afghanistan, North Korea, and what's left of Yugoslavia. Even Iran, Iraq, and Libya, on which the United States has imposed a total embargo on trade, technically have most-favored-nation status.

Revoking MFN means that imports from that country are subject to dramatically higher taxes—taxes that are paid not by China, but by American companies and passed on to American consumers. A cut-off of MFN would increase the average tariff on Chinese imports from about 6 percent more than 44 percent, resulting in \$27 to \$29 billion in higher costs to American consumers. The shoes Kansas